



WISBECH BOROUGH COUNCIL

AND

WISBECH PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY

ANNUAL  
HEALTH REPORT  
1967



*With the Compliments  
of the  
Chief Public Health Inspector*

*Public Health Department  
Exchange Square  
Wisbech*

*Telephone:  
Wisbech 5761*

H E A L T H

C O M M I T T E E

THE WORSHIPFUL THE MAYOR:

Councillor W.P. Pomeroy

CHAIRMAN:

Alderman E.N. Rigg

VICE CHAIRMAN:

Alderman E.H. Miller

MEMBERS:

Alderman Mrs. B.M. Osborn

Alderman C.A.E. Woolnough

Councillor F. Alberts

Councillor A.E. Feary

Councillor G.G.J. Gibbs

Councillor A. Harrold

Councillor Mrs. L.M. Moore

Councillor H.T. Pigott

Councillor A.S. Roseberry

Councillor Mrs. H.M. Walker

O F F I C E R S

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH: M.D.C. Martin, M.B., Ch.B., D.C.H.,  
7 North Brink,  
Wisbech. (Part Time)

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR: D. Brook, F.A.P.H.I.,  
Exchange Square,  
Wisbech.

Certificate of the Royal Society of  
Health and Public Health Inspectors  
Examination Joint Board.  
Cert. Inspector of Meat and Food  
Royal Society of Health.  
Smoke Inspector's Diploma, Royal  
Society of Health.  
Testamur Institute of Public  
Cleansing.

DEPUTY CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH  
INSPECTOR: J.L. Fear, M.A.P.H.I.,

Certificate of the Royal Society of  
Health and Public Health Inspectors  
Examination Joint Board.  
Cert. Inspector of Meat and Food  
Royal Society of Health.  
Smoke Inspectors Certificate  
Royal Society of Health.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR: R. Sissons, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.,

Certificate of Public Health  
Inspectors Education Board.  
Dip. Inspector of Meat and Food  
Royal Society of Health.  
Smoke Inspectors Diploma Royal  
Society of Health.  
(Until 1.12.67)

MEAT INSPECTOR: J. Keenan,

Cert. Inspector Of Meat and Food  
Royal Sanitary Association of  
Scotland.  
Scottish National Meat Diploma.

TRAINEE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR: V.J. George,

Inter. Examination of the Public  
Health Inspectors Education Board.

CLERK: Mrs. B.F. Kerridge,

## REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1967

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of Wisbech.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I present for your consideration the Annual Report on the Public Health of the Borough for the year ending 31st December, 1967.

We live in an area characterised by change of emphasis. In the field of Public Health the emphasis in community disease control moves from infectious and deficiency illnesses to other preventable causes of morbidity and mortality. Accidental injury, suicide, lung and cervical cancer all come into this category. The causes of the first two are complicated and deeply involved in the whole pattern of life in a modern industrial society. The latter two probably have a simpler etiology, and certainly have a more straight forward prevention. During 1967, the Minister of Health has again pointed out to Local Authorities the association of smoking with disease and the Public Health Department distributed copies of his statement to owners and/or occupiers of public places in order to inform them of his concern for the discomfort caused to chest disease sufferers from the breathing of a smoke laden atmosphere.

During the year, too, the examination of cervical smears has continued at the North Cambs. Hospital. They can cope with all which are sent to them and I would, therefore, once more appeal to all women to ask their family doctor for a smear test, or to attend the Cervical Smear Clinic at the hospital.

During April, 1967, a Family Planning Clinic opened in Wisbech to serve women in the Borough and surrounding area. By the end of the year the number of patients was increasing at each session and it is, therefore, obvious that a need is being served.

Unfortunately, I can report no progress towards fluoridation of the water supply. A close follow up study continues in areas where fluoride has been added to the water and no untoward effect can be found. It is to be hoped that soon, in this area also, the children will reap the proven benefits to dental health.

I have the honour to be, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

M. DOREEN C. MARTIN, M.B., Ch.B., D.C.H.

Medical Officer of Health.



## VITAL STATISTICS

NOTE:

- \* Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident mid-1967 population;
- \*\* Rate per 1,000 births (Live and Still);
- \*\*\* Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident mid-1967 population;
- \*\*\*\* Deaths of infants under 1 year, per 1,000 live births.

Vital Statistics cont'd .....

Causes of Deaths of Children under 1 year

Prematurity ..... 2  
Intracranial Haemorrhage ..... 1

Deaths from Cancer (all ages) - 44

Live Birth, Still Birth, Death and Infant  
Mortality Rates during past six years

	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967
<u>Live Birth Rate</u>						
Wisbech Borough	17.66	16.81	19.28	16.59	17.27	15.97
Cambs. & Isle of Ely	16.49	16.58	18.06	16.3	15.7	15.7
England and Wales	18	18.2	18.5	18.1	17.7	17.2
<u>Still Birth Rate</u>						
Wisbech Borough	13.6	6.94	15.01	13.98	10.17	0
Cambs. & Isle of Ely	13.51	19	15.54	10.7	15.3	14
England and Wales	18.1	17.2	16.4	15.8	15.4	14.8
<u>Death Rate</u>						
Wisbech Borough	14.64	10	10.12	9.55	11.15	11.43
Cambs. & Isle of Ely	11.39	11.68	10.99	9.8	10.4	10.2
England and Wales	11.9	12.2	11.3	11.5	11.7	11.2
<u>Infant Mortality Rate</u>						
Wisbech Borough	22.58	35	21.34	24.82	37.67	11.11
Cambs. & Isle of Ely	37	22.8	18.31	15.6	14.9	14.
England and Wales	20.7	21.1	19.9	19	18.9	18.3

GENERAL MEDICAL SERVICES

Cambridgeshire and Isle of Ely  
Executive Council:

16 Station Road,  
Cambridge.

Clerk:

F.G. Lloyd Esq.

East Anglian Regional Hospital Board:

Union Lane,  
Chesterton, Cambridge.

Senior Administrative Medical Officer:

Dr. J.B. Even

- (a) General: (1) North Cambridgeshire Hospital, Wisbech.  
(2) Clarkson Hospital, Wisbech.  
(3) Memorial Hospital, Peterborough.  
(4) Addenbrookes Hospital, Cambridge.  
(5) Doddington Hospital, Doddington.  
(6) Barton Road Hospital, Wisbech. (Aged Sick)  
(Closed 15.3.68)

- (b) Maternity: (1) Bowthorpe Maternity Home, Wisbech.

All primiparous mothers may be confined in hospital and other mothers may be admitted for obstetric abnormality. On 8th December 1967 the General Practitioner Unit was opened and now any woman, who wishes, may be confined in hospital.

- (c) Infectious Diseases: (1) Isolation Hospital, Peterborough.  
(2) Hardwick Isolation Hospital, King's Lynn.

- (d) Tuberculosis:

The area chest physician holds a weekly clinic at North Cambridgeshire Hospital, Wisbech.

In-patient accommodation is provided through the East Anglian Regional Hospital Board.

- (e) Mental Illness:

Accommodation is provided, through the East Anglian Regional Hospital Board, usually in Fulbourne Hospital. This is arranged directly by the Local General Practitioners.

- (f) Venereal Disease:

- (1) Addenbrookes Hospital, Cambridge.  
(2) Peterborough Memorial Hospital, Peterborough.  
(3) West Norfolk and King's Lynn Hospital.

- (g) Medical Equipment Services:

Medical equipment is provided, on loan, by the St. John's Ambulance Division and the Red Cross Medical Loan Depot by arrangement with the County Council.



### COUNTY MEDICAL SERVICES

(a) Midwifery, General Sick and Public Health Nursing:

The nursing staff is employed by the Cambridgeshire and Isle of Ely County Council either directly or by arrangement with the County Nursing Association under the National Health Service Act, 1946.

Two full time midwives and relief midwives are qualified to administer gas/air analgesia, pethedine and trilene and the necessary machines approved by the Central Midwives Board are available for their use.

(b) Ambulance and Hospital Car Service:

The radio-controlled ambulance system is now working well. There is one ambulance control centre at March which directs ambulances and hospital cars with speed and economy to the points where they are required. As part of the overall scheme, 3 ambulances are stationed at Wisbech and there are 6 other ambulances throughout the Northern Area of the County.

(c) Infant and Child Welfare:

The Infant and Child Welfare Clinic in the Horsofair is hold twice weekly on Wednesday and Friday afternoons.

The midwives hold an Antenatal Clinic for expextant mothers who are to be confined at home.

(d) School Minor Ailments Clinic:

County Clinic, The Horsefair, Wisbech.

(e) Home Help Service:

Available for confinements, cases of illness and for social reasons in the aged.

### LABORATORY SERVICES

Public Health Laboratory Service, (Director: Dr. J. Glencross)  
Peterborough and District Memorial Hospital,  
Midland Road,  
Peterborough.

Public Analyst, (S. Greenburgh P.H.D., B.Sc., F.R.I.C.)  
The Laboratory,  
Tenison Road,  
Cambridge.

## OTHER SERVICES

### Health Education

All primiparous women are given the opportunity of attending relaxation and mother and baby care classes during their pregnancy. Recognised Women's Meetings e.g. Church Groups and Women's Rural Institute Meetings occasionally ask for a speaker on Health Education and such requests are readily complied with by the Public Health Department.

Lectures on food hygiene and the work of the department have been given by Mr. Brook and his staff to students at the Isle of Ely College.

### Meals on Wheels

For some years now, the Womens Voluntary Service has provided "Meals on Wheels" service for the aged on two days each week. This plays an important part in helping to prevent deterioration of health in the very old who live by themselves. The food is cooked at The Metal Box Company Canteen and a very small charge is made to the recipients.

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES

### Diphtheria Immunisation

Number of children under the age of 1 year who have completed a full course of immunisation against Diphtheria during the year .....	113
Between the ages of 1 and 4 years .....	152
Between the ages of 5 and 14 years .....	12
Boosters .....	347

### Notifiable Infectious Diseases

### Total notified during year

Acute Poliomyelitis .....	0
Chickenpox .....	16
Diphtheria .....	0
Dysentery .....	2
Erysipelas .....	1
Enteric Fever .....	0
Food Poisoning .....	3
Gastro Enteritis .....	1
Infective Hepatitis .....	0
Measles .....	10
Ophthalmia Neonatorum .....	0
Paratyphoid Fever .....	0
Puerperal Pyrexia .....	0
Pneumonia .....	3
Scarlet Fever .....	5
Smallpox .....	0
Whooping Cough .....	14

Notifications of Tuberculosis

<u>Age Periods</u>	<u>New Cases</u>			
	<u>Pulmonary</u>		<u>Non-Pulmonary</u>	
	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>
- 1	0	0	0	0
- 5	0	0	0	0
- 15	0	0	0	0
- 25	0	0	0	0
- 45	0	0	0	0
- 65 and over	1	0	0	0
Age unknown	0	0	0	0
	1	0	0	0

CAUSES OF DEATHS YEAR 1967

	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>Total</u>
Tuberculosis, respiratory .....	1	0	1
Tuberculosis, other .....	0	0	0
Syphilitic Disease .....	0	0	0
Diphtheria .....	0	0	0
Whooping Cough .....	0	0	0
Meningococcal Infection .....	0	0	0
Acute Poliomyelitis .....	0	0	0
Measles .....	0	0	0
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases ....	0	0	0
Malignant Neoplasm, stomach .....	2	2	4
Malignant Neoplasm, lung, bronchus .....	8	2	10
Malignant Neoplasm, breast .....	-	5	5
Malignant Neoplasm, uterus .....	-	5	5
Other Malignant and Lymphatic neoplasms ...	7	11	18
Leukaemia, aloukaemia .....	1	1	2
Diabetes .....	2	3	5
Vascular lesions of nervous system .....	12	19	31
Coronary disease, angina .....	29	17	46
Hypertension with heart disease .....	3	7	10
Other heart disease .....	9	17	26
Other circulatory disease .....	3	4	7
Influenza .....	0	0	0
Pneumonia .....	14	20	34
Bronchitis .....	6	0	6
Other diseases of respiratory system .....	3	0	3
Ulcer of the stomach and duodenum .....	0	0	0
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea .....	0	0	0
Nephritis and nephrosis .....	2	0	2
Hyperplasia of prostate .....	2	-	2
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion .....	-	0	0
Congenital malformations .....	0	1	1
Other defined or ill-defined diseases .....	17	11	28
Motor vehicle accidents .....	4	0	4
All other accidents .....	3	1	4
Suicide .....	0	1	1
Homicide and operations of war .....	0	0	0
TOTALS .....	128	127	255



Deaths from Selected Causes during the years 1961 to 1967

	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967
Lung Cancer	7	8	8	11	9	11	10(3)*
Motor Vehicles Accidents	1	4	2	4	0	2	4(3)*
All other accidents	6	9	5	4	8	4	4(3)*
Suicide	2	4	2	2	3	3	1(1)*
TOTALS	16	25	17	21	20	20	19(10)

I draw your attention to these causes of death as being essentially preventable. The number of deaths from lung cancer, of course, gives no indication of the number of cases diagnosed and successfully treated.

(\* Number in brackets are under 65 years of age).



REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR  
FOR THE YEAR, 1967

To the Worshipful the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of Wisbech.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my eleventh Annual Report.

At the commencement of the Municipal Year 1967/68 the Council introduced a new Administrative Structure. The number of Committees were reduced, duties were re-allocated. Extensive delegate powers were granted to the Health Committee. Alderman E.N. Rigg, M.P.S., was elected the first Chairman of the Health Committee.

It is appropriate to remember that Alderman E. Hubbard Miller, henceforth Vice Chairman, had steered the former Public Health Committee through the important post war years during his Chairmanship from 1945/46 onwards. Slum Clearance was recommenced, meat rationing and controlled slaughtering disappeared. New legislation has been introduced and implemented in respect of food hygiene, caravan sites, clean air, housing Improvement Grants, the health and welfare of non-industrial establishments such as Offices and Shops. Alderman Miller was happy too to see the lifting of parochial boundaries which led the Borough Council, together with the two surrounding Rural District Councils, to introduce and successfully operate a Joint Refuse Disposal Scheme. Now it is everyone's hope that a Joint Sewerage and Sewage Disposal Scheme will follow on at an early date.

The staff remained unchanged until almost the end of the year. In December, Mr. R. Sissons moved to East Elloe Rural District and Mr. J.L. Fear signified his intention to move to Chorley Borough Council early 1968.

May I thank the Chairman and Committee members for their support and guidance during the year

I am Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,  
Your Obedient Servant,

D. BROOK, F.A.P.H.I.,

Chief Public Health Inspector.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTIONS OF DISTRICT

<u>PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS:</u>	Complaints - Housing .....	30
	Other .....	80
	Drains inspected and tested .....	188
	Sewer Connections and revisits ..	66
	Caravans .....	84
	Filthy and Verminous Premises ...	48
	Infectious Diseases .....	44
<u>HOUSING ACTS:</u>	Inspected and recorded .....	136
	Housing Applications .....	11
	Improvement Grants .....	743
<u>FOOD AND DRUGS ACT:</u>	Slaughterhouses (Hygiene and Cruelty) ....	95
	Food Hygiene visits .....	64
	Food Preparation Premises .....	53
	Ice Cream Premises .....	3
	Dairy Premises .....	4
	Market Stalls .....	120
	Unsound Food Visits .....	27
	Wholesale Food Auctions .....	104
<u>RENT ACT:</u>	Inspections .....	2
<u>SHOPS ACT:</u>	Inspections .....	1
<u>OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT:</u>	Inspections and revisits .....	185
<u>FACTORIES ACT:</u>	Inspections .....	20
<u>PET ANIMALS ACT AND ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT:</u>	Inspections .....	2
<u>CLEAN AIR ACT:</u>	Inspections and Observations ....	74
<u>RODENT CONTROL:</u>	Inspections .....	68
<u>LITTER ACT:</u>	Inspections .....	0
<u>PORT HEALTH AREA:</u>	Inspections .....	35
<u>NOISE ABATEMENT ACT:</u>	Inspections .....	11

### WATER SUPPLY

The Borough of Wisbech is a constituent authority of the Wisbech and District Water Board and a mains water supply is available to almost every dwelling-house in the Borough.

The supply is obtained from shallow bore holes and the river Nar at Marham, Norfolk and has always been satisfactory in quality after initial treatment at the source.

The water is not liable to have any plumbo solvent effect and no contamination has occurred which called for special action by the department.

The number of houses in the Borough without an internal piped supply is 11, a reduction of 5 from last year.

Town: 6 Rural areas: 5

Of these houses, 3 are vacant and awaiting demolition and 3 are in the slum clearance programme for the next 5 years.

#### Examination of Water Supply

The Manager of the Wisbech and District Water Board has made available regular monthly summaries of routine bacteriological samples taken in the Borough in addition to which the department has submitted water samples to the Public Health Laboratory, Peterborough for examination.

The samples taken by the Public Health Inspectors included mains water from houses, offices, caravan sites, shops, public taps and port hydrants.

#### Raw Waters (at source)

	No. of samples	Coliforms	
		Negative	Positive
<u>Water Board</u>			
Bacteriological	211	192	19

The Water Board carried out 22 chemical analyses of raw water at the source and these were satisfactory



Examination of Water Supply cont'd .....

Treated Waters

	Samples Submitted	Results	
		Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
<u>Water Board</u>			
Bacteriological	747	747	Nil
Chemical	55	55	Nil
<u>Public Health Dept.</u>			
Bacteriological	38	35	3

Extensions to Mains

Kirkgate Street	221 yards of 4" P.V.C.
	54 " " 3" P.V.C.
Sandall Road	127 " " 4" P.V.C.
Housing Site, Chapnall Road	147 " " 4" P.V.C.
Housing Site, Kirkgate Street	87 " " 4" P.V.C.
	26 " " 3" P.V.C.
Housing Site, Fifth Avenue, Mount Drive	180 " " 4" P.V.C.
Housing Site, Sixth Avenue, Mount Drive	187 " " 4" P.V.C.
Housing Site, Seventh Avenue, Mount Drive	187 " " 4" P.V.C.
Housing Site, Mansell Road	200 " " 4" P.V.C.
	332 " " 3" P.V.C.
Housing Site, Elizabeth Terr.	120 " " 4" P.V.C.
Lynn Road	56 " " 12" A.C.
Oldfield Lane (New Offices)	26 " " 6" P.V.C.

Total Main Laid 1,950 yards

New connections made in  
the Borough during the  
year 1967

= 68



Typical Chemical Analysis

Tapwater 29th December, 1967, 11.20 a.m.

Bacteriological Results

Number of bacteria growing on agar per ml. in 24 hours at 37°C .....	0
Number of bacteria growing on agar per ml. in 72 hours at 20° - 22°C .....	3
Coliform count per 100 ml. ....	0
Bact. coli I count per 100 ml. ....	0

Physical Characteristics

Appearance ....	Clear and Bright	pH. ....	7.3
Turbidity .....	Nil	Odour .....	Nil
Colour .....	Nil	Taste .....	Nil

Chemical Results expressed in parts per million

Free Carbon dioxide .....	21.8
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hrs. at 27°C .....	0.10
Ammoniacal nitrogen .....	Nil
Albuminoid nitrogen .....	0.02
Nitrate nitrogen .....	10.0
Nitrite nitrogen .....	Nil
Alkalinity as CaCO <sub>3</sub> .....	210
Hardness as CaCO <sub>3</sub> :	
Total .....	284
Carbonate (temporary) .....	210
Non-carbonate (permanent) .....	74
Residual chlorine .....	0.65
Total solids, dried at 180°C .....	394
Aluminium (Al) .....	Nil
Calcium (Ca) .....	110
Iron (Fe) .....	0.005
Magnesium (Mg) .....	2.17
Manganese (Mn) .....	Nil
Lead (Pb) .....	Nil
Sodium (Na) .....	Not examined
Zinc (Zn) .....	Nil
Silica (SiO <sub>2</sub> ) .....	7.0
Sulphate (SO <sub>4</sub> ) .....	48.6
Carbonate (CO <sub>3</sub> ) .....	126
Chloride (Cl) .....	30
Fluoride (F) .....	0.02

General Remarks

The above results indicate a water pure and wholesome in character. It is suitable both chemically and bacteriologically as a public supply for drinking and domestic purposes.

J.S. Collins  
Chemist and Bacteriologist  
Wisbech and District Water Board

### SWIMMING BATHS

The Borough Council own and operate at Crabmarsh an unheated open air swimming pool with a capacity of 120,000 gallons. The source of the water used in the bath is the mains supply of the Wisbech and District Water Board and the treatment is by a Bell Bros. sand filter using soda and alumina prior to filtration and chlorination. The water in the bath is circulated once every 8 hours.

A local benefactor made an offer in the sum of £31,000 towards the provision of a covered swimming bath. To assist in the planning of this project visits have been made to several new indoor heated swimming pools. Preliminary discussions concerning the project have been held with the Marshland and Wisbech Rural District Councils and the Cambridgeshire and Isle of Ely County Council.

Three school swimming pools continued to operate during the summer months as follows:-

Peckover School	18,000 gals.	Cloth filters
Queen's Boys' School	56,000 gals.	Sand filter
Queen's Girls' School	39,000 gals.	Diatomite filter

All of the school pools use hypochlorite solutions for sterilising the water.

As in previous years, close liaison was maintained with pool operators and assistance given where problems arose. Regular visits were made to each pool during summer term.

#### Sample Results

Pool	Samples Submitted	Results	
		Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Crabmarsh	4	4	0
Peckover School	2	2	0
Queen's Boys' School	2	2	0
Queen's Girls' School	2	2	0



## SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

In the built up part of the town east of the River, only three premises are not connected to the public sewer. One property is liable to be dealt with by demolition, another is a commercial premise, in the process of being run down where few people spend very short periods in any one week.

To deal with the outstanding built up area North of the River and also to meet the needs of parts of Marshland and Wisboch Rural Districts, the Council's Consulting Engineers carried out instructions to prepare the necessary drawings and documents to enable the scheme to be submitted to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government viz:-

- (a) Provision of new sewers to the west of the River Nene;
- (b) The relief of the existing main outfall sewer through the centre area of the town;
- (c) The provision of additional pumping capacity to convey all sewage, including trade effluents for disposal;
- (d) The provision of a new sewage treatment works;
- (e) The renewal of some existing sewers.

It is a matter of regret to mention that at the time of preparing this report the Ministry of Housing and Local Government had not fixed a date for a Public Enquiry to be held to deal with the proposals submitted by the Consultants.

Nevertheless, the interim period has not been completely quiescent. It is hoped to negotiate a contract to lay twin sewer pipes beneath the River Nene, at an opportune time when specialist firms are already working in the area in connection with North Sea Gas. Planning application has been made to Norfolk County Council in respect of proposed treatment works in the vicinity of Walton Dam. The County Land Agent has been quick to express concern about the likely adverse effects on County Smallholdings. Further negotiations have been opened with the owners of land on which the treatment works may be sited and also three parcels of land for pumping stations in Mount Pleasant, Harcroft Road and Barton Road. A request has been made to the Cambridgeshire and Isle of Ely County Council for a grant pursuant to Section 56, Local Government Act, 1958 towards the cost of the sewerage and sewage disposal scheme.

In the interim period - which must appear never ending to those living nearby - problems continue to arise from the disposal of cesspool contents, not only from the Borough but also surrounding rural parishes. In connection with the joint sewage disposal scheme, the Rural District Councils have requested permission to dispose of cesspool contents at the Sewage Farm. No suitable

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal cont'd .....

vehicular access is available to the Farm. The Rural District Councils have entered into an agreement - for a period of 20 years - to have use of this facility in return for the construction of a roadway.

The health of the community is at risk so long as the present outmoded disposal methods remain.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

A regular weekly collection of house refuse is maintained throughout the district with additional collections from catering establishments. Trade refuse is collected from commercial premises for which a charge is made.

House refuse is usually stored in  $2\frac{1}{2}$  cubic feet metal dustbins provided by the owner or occupier of premises. Trade Refuse has become bulky and one notices the increasing practice of indiscriminate dumping at rear of premises of all shapes and sizes of containers.

All refuse is disposed of by means of controlled tipping along lengths of the disused Wisbech Canal under the Joint Refuse Disposal Committee made up of representatives of the three local councils. A few years of experience of this project now indicates that the valuable asset will only be available for about ten years, having regard to the pace at which it is being filled up.

In 1967 the Ministry of Housing and Local Government published the Report of a Working Party which has been engaged since 1963 on the subject of Refuse Storage and Collection. It is appropriate to look at some of the main points, as it is written "almost all local authorities need to take some action to improve their service".

Para. 522. "The only two systems we can recommend for house-to-house collection are continental dustless loading and the paper sack system".

Para. 525. "The provision of refuse receptacles at residential premises should be a legal responsibility of the local authority.

Para. 531. "Local authorities should provide or arrange facilities for private persons to dispose of unwanted cars and should take responsibility for removal of abandoned vehicles".

Part I: Introduction

This is a statement using the 'language of priorities' as to the future emphasis.



Refuse Collection and Disposal cont'd .....

The above recommendations do not require any new legislation and can be implemented at an early date.

Amongst recommendations are some which require amended legislation.

Para. 647. "Trade Refuse and classification of refuse according to the kind of premises from which it originates.

- (a) mainly houses and similar residential premises. Authorities should be obliged to collect all the refuse from these, collection should be free, subject to limited exceptions for garden refuse and builders' rubbish;
- (b) commercial and trade premises. Collection should be obligatory on request but with a discretion to charge.
- (c) consisting mainly of industrial premises. There should be discretion to collect and discretion to charge.

At present one has to rely upon court decisions to determine what is house and trade refuse. There seems to be general agreement that the most important consideration is the character of the refuse and that house refuse is the sort of refuse which arises from the ordinary domestic occupation of a house. House refuse can, therefore, arise not only from houses but in the course of certain trades, in particular hotels, restaurants and canteens, the refuse from which falls within the existing definition of house refuse. This can at present be put out in unlimited quantities for collection free of charge at the local authority's normal collection times, and are only liable to be charged for additional collections on an intervening day.

Discussions have been held with the County Council and neighbouring Rural District Councils to arrange proper siting for the disposal of abandoned cars and bulky refuse.

It is also now the appropriate time to adopt either the dustless loading or paper sack system for refuse storage, the provision of which to be made by the Council.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

Situation	Women	Men	
	W.C's	W.C's	Urinals
Barton Road	1	1	2
Cattle Market	2	1	2
Horsefair	3	1	6
Market Place	4	3	7
Mount Pleasant	2	1	3
Norfolk Street	3	2	4
Norwich Road	2	1	3
Old Market	3	2	6
The Park	4	2	4

Public Conveniences cont'd .....

Hand washing facilities are generally available in all conveniences except at Barton Road. No permanent attendants are employed at any one convenience. A small minority of the public display unnecessary evidence of unclean habits and vandalism which, at times, render the conveniences a hazard to health.

PERSONAL CLEANSING

23 persons were treated at the Cleansing Station.

Disinfection and disinfestation of bedding and clothing is carried out when necessary by arrangement with the engineer of the Clarkson Hospital.

Terminal disinfection of rooms after infectious disease is available when requested.

MILK

The large majority of milk consumers are supplied with heat treated milk from tuberculin free herds. A very small quantity of farm bottled milk from a tuberculin free herd is consumed in the Borough.

Regular visits are made to the Co-operative Pasteurising Plant and 8 batches of washed milk bottles were submitted for checks on the efficiency of the bottle washing plant. In each case the reports were satisfactory.

Registration and Licensing

There are 17 names on the Register of Distributors of milk and 2 premises registered as Dairies.

Bacteriological Examination of Milk

101 samples of milk were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, Peterborough for examination.

Milk cont'd .....

Type of Milk	No. of samples	Methylene Blue Test		Phosphatase Test		Turbidity Test		Biological Test		Colony Count	
		Sat.	Unsat.	Sat.	Unsat.	Sat.	Unsat.	Sat.	Unsat.	Sat.	Unsat.
Untreated	17	9	1	0	0	0	0	17	0	0	0
Pasteurised	73	51	8	73	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sterilised	3	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
U.H.T.	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	0
Cream	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
U.H.T. Cream	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
TOTALS	101	60	10	74	0	3	0	17	0	7	0

#### Untreated Milk

Of the 17 samples submitted, 7 Methylene Blue Tests were declared void.

The biological tests showed no evidence of Tuberculosis of Brucella in any of the 17 samples but, in 1 case, the milk showed slight growth of Staph. aureus. In this case the information was passed onto the Public Health Authority concerned.

#### Pasteurised Milk

There were 15 occasions when the Methylene Blue Test was declared void and, in 8 cases, the samples failed to satisfy the test.

#### Cream

The sample of pasteurised cream failed to satisfy the Methylene Blue Test, possibly due to the test being not particularly suitable for cream.

#### Vending Machines

Regular surveillance was kept of milk vending machines at various canteens.

### SLAUGHTERHOUSES AND MEAT INSPECTION

Number of Animals Slaughtered since  
"Appointed Day" - 1st January, 1961

Year	Cattle including Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs incl. Sows and Boars	Total number of animals expressed in Cattle Units
1961	1,774	15	2,554	9,650	7,115
1962	2,072	26	2,384	9,538	7,323
1963	2,392	5	2,739	9,689	7,785
1964	6,864	11	7,220	9,781	13,202
1965	8,529	23	4,597	10,893	14,899
1966	9,693	47	4,599	10,674	15,959
1967	9,617	6	4,101	12,289	16,583



Slaughterhouses and Meat Inspection cont'd .....

Two licensed slaughterhouses operated throughout the year. The other private slaughterhouse situate in Tinkers Drove ceased operations at Easter, 1967, the premises and land having been acquired by the Borough Council by Compulsory Purchase under Part V, Housing Act, 1957.

For the latter part of the year the movement of animals was restricted during continued outbreaks of Foot and Mouth Disease reducing the kill during November and December. Despite the restrictions, the overall figures show a 10% increase in the throughput of pigs, with little change elsewhere.

The King's Lynn Public Abattoir closed August, 1967, which led to some animals being directed to the slaughterhouse in Oil Mill Lane.

New lairages were constructed at the Chase Slaughterhouse. Hours of slaughter were fairly even between Monday morning and Saturday noon. Sunday killing occurred at Oil Mill Lane each Bank Holiday time.

Unfit meat and offal are stained and removed for sterilization. New regulations due to come into force during 1968 will eliminate the use of wiping cloths in slaughterhouses. Cloths have been considered the means of carrying spoilage organisms from one carcase to another. Advance notice to slaughterhouse operators has brought cries of revolt - a break with tradition. Modern fittings to spray clean piped water onto carcasses are readily available, and if used properly at the right time eliminate the need to use wiping clothes in the final operation as the carcase leaves the slaughterhall for the cooling hall.

Meat inspection charges are made according to the maximum set out in the Meat Inspection Regulations, 1963, except that an Annual Contract figure covered the abattoir at The Chase.

Number of Animals Slaughtered during the  
year ending 31st December, 1967

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Sows and Boars
Number Killed	9,571	46	6	4,101	11,608	681
Number inspected	9,571	46	6	4,101	11,608	681



Slaughterhouses and Meat Inspection cont'd .....  
Meat Condemned during the year

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Sows and Boars
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticercosis.						
Whole carcasses condemned	11	0	3	19	21	6
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	2,770	13	0	155	576	36
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis and Cysticercosis	28.9%	28.26%	50%	.42%		.52%
Tuberculosis only:						
Whole carcasses condemned	1	0	0	0	0	0
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	0	0	0	0	10	5
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	.01%	0	0	0		.12%
Cysticercosis:						
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	26	0	0	0	0	0
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	9	0	0	0	0	0
Generalised and totally condemned	0	0	0	0	0	0

Total number of animals slaughtered: 26.013

Quantities condemned: Tuberculosis 794 lbs.  
 Other Diseases 47,769 lbs.  
48,562 lbs.

Knackers Yard

There is no Knackers Yard within the Borough, although two such premises are available within 10 miles of Wisbech.

POULTRY INSPECTION

Slaughter of Poultry Act, 1967

On an appointed day, yet to be fixed, the Act requires registration of premises where poultry is slaughtered and that humane methods of slaughter are employed.

Not many birds are slaughtered in the Borough. One premise is in regular use on one morning per week. All carcasses are inspected. Routine checks are made of poultry exposed for sale, particularly in the auction markets.

(i)	number of poultry processing premises within the district .....	1
(ii)	number of visits to these premises ..	50
(iii)	total number of birds processed during the year .....	500
(iv)	type of birds processed .....	Hens
(v)	percentage of birds rejected as unfit for human consumption .....	1%
(vi)	weight of poultry condemned as unfit for human consumption .....	20 lbs.

COMPLAINTS OF UNSATISFACTORY FOOD

During 1967, the department dealt with 7 formal complaints relating either to inferior quality food or unfitness of food.

The following cases were investigated and reported to the Council who instructed the Town Clerk to warn the firms concerned that a repetition of the offence would result in legal proceedings being taken:-

Mouldy Pork Pie.  
Broken knife blade in sliced loaf.  
Mouldy sausage rolls.  
Maggots in portion of cooked chicken.  
Glass in milk bottle.

The following matters were investigated by the public health inspectors who, after investigation, were satisfied that either no offence was committed or that the firms concerned had taken all possible steps to prevent a recurrence of the offence and that legal proceedings were not warranted in these cases:-

Sale of Mouldy Sausages.  
Prepacked cheese alleged to taste bitter.

## FOOD SHOPS

The following tabulated list gives the number of the various types of food premises in the Borough.

Bakehouses .....	12
Cafes .....	10
Grocers and General Mixed Stores .....	53
Greengrocers .....	9
Fishmongers .....	5
Fried Fish Shops .....	13
Butchers .....	27
Food Factories .....	15
Wholesale Fruit Merchants (Processors) .....	13
Flour Millers and Granary .....	2
Licensed Premises and Registered Clubs .....	61
Ice Cream Manufacturers .....	2
Market Stalls .....	28
Confectioners .....	14

List of improvements and unsatisfactory conditions remedied in food premises.

Sinks provided .....	0
Hot water provided .....	1
Wash-hand basins provided .....	1
Premises repaired .....	2
W.C's provided .....	1
W.C's repaired .....	2
Artificial lighting .....	2
Cleansed and redecorated .....	5
Ventilation .....	1

## Food Hygiene

The focus of food hygiene activity was directed towards the implementation of The Food Hygiene (Markets, Stalls and Delivery Vehicles) Regulations, 1966.

Public Health Officers from neighbouring market towns met together to draw up a common sense hand out to food traders operating in this part of East Anglia.

By coincidence the private contractor who for years hired wooden stalls to traders on Wisbech Market retired from business. In anticipation of this move the Council had purchased a reasonable number of metal stalls. By mid 1968 the entire market will take on a more orderly appearance with modern metal stalls throughout.



Food Hygiene cont'd .....

Public conveniences, with wash basins and running hot water are available in one corner of the Market Place. All stall holders handling open food were required to provide facilities for hot water, hand washing and cleansing of equipment. The majority of such traders purchased the cheapest available insulated container with metal bowl attachment, which will give limited service.

Another look was taken at the litter problem arising from the Saturday Market. A refuse collection vehicle and labour were placed on duty for the whole of the time that trading was in operation. Some improvement was noticed, the public as well as the traders were guilty of untidy habits.

Mobile food stalls are heavy on the ground at any modern fair ground. Routine visits were made during mart time and a good standard of hygiene was in evidence. One cannot but remark that fair ground traders are well informed of their responsibilities and show a definite desire to demonstrate their knowledge.

Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960

(i) Number of premises to which the regulations apply ...	236
(ii) Number of above fitted to comply with regulation 16 (wash-basins).....	236
(iii) Number of premises to which regulation 19 (sinks) applies .....	195
(iv) Number of premises fitted to comply with regulation 19 .....	195

UN SOUND FOOD

The following foodstuffs, apart from meat in slaughter-houses, were found unfit and surrendered.

<u>Tins</u>		<u>Various</u>	
Meat .....	55	Ox kidneys .....	15 lbs.
Fruit and vegetables .....	163	Fish .....	80 lbs.
Soup .....	1	Chickens .....	5 No.
Fish .....	10	Pheasants .....	3 No.
Milk .....	17	Toffees .....	17½lbs.
Creamed Rice .....	4	Herrings .....	9 jars.
Fruit Drink .....	8		

Unsound Food cont'd .....

Frozen Foods

Complete dinners .....	11 pkts.	Potato chips .....	59 pkts.
Cheeseburgers .....	2 "	Chickens .....	54 No.
Fish .....	453 "	Meat pies .....	35 No.
Vegetables .....	364 "	Cakes .....	29 No.
Various Meats .....	313 "		
Mousse .....	62 "		
Fruit .....	2 "		
Pastry .....	23 "		

ANIMAL FOOD FACTORY

Constant surveillance is maintained over the receipt and processing of meat, offal and trimmings at a modern pet animal food factory.

ICE CREAM

94 premises are registered under Section 16, Food and Drugs Act, 1955, 2 for manufacture, storage and sale and 92 for the storage and sale of ice cream.

30 samples of ice cream were submitted for bacteriological examination during the year with the following results:-

Grade I .....	22
Grade II .....	6
Grade III .....	2
Grade IV .....	0

Seven samples were from the only manufacturers in the town, 17 were from cafes and canteens and the remainder were from shops and mobile ice cream vendors.

Liquid Egg (Pasteurisation) Regulations, 1963

There were no egg pasteurisation plants in the district and no known users of liquid egg. No samples of liquid egg were sent for examination.

## CLEAN AIR ACT

Every attempt has been made to preserve a clean atmosphere. Industrialists know our keenness on this subject and respect our approaches when we notice minor deteriorations in the emissions from chimneys.

The new Building Regulations are adequate to ensure that any firegrates installed in new dwellings are suitable to burn smokeless fuel - perhaps a factor which is not given sufficient publicity.

### Industrial:

#### Furnaces (Sec. 3)

(a)	notifications received .....	1
(b)	applications for prior approval .....	4
(c)	number of cases in which alterations were required .....	2
(d)	number of applications granted .....	3

#### Grit and Dust Emissions (Sec. 5)

(a)	number of contraventions .....	1
(b)	type of plant involved .....	Economic Boiler: Chain Grate stoker.

#### Height of Chimneys

(a)	number of plans submitted showing new chimneys .....	4
(b)	number of cases in which alterations were required .....	1
(c)	number approved .....	4

## HOUSING

### CLEARANCE

Two Public Inquiries were held, involving one Clearance Order and Three Compulsory Purchase Orders. The Orders were subsequently confirmed without modification.

No new orders were made, but clearance progressed particularly in the Prospect Place area.



Housing cont'd .....

As part of a national policy the Minister of Housing and Local Government directed the Council to review its Clearance Programme, with the sole object of accelerating the rate of clearance. The target was doubled to around 150 houses per year. It was necessary to reshuffle the order in which future clearance areas were to be dealt with. Face by the fact that most houses in future areas were in the same state of unfitness, the order of clearance was decided by reference to the ultimate use of the cleared sites.

Adequate press publicity was given to the revised programme. Certain reaction arose from owner/occupiers who had purchased particular properties with limited life, the life of which were to even shorter than expected. A considerable amount of time has been devoted to interviewing people likely to be displaced. However, the discussions proved helpful in sorting out all but one of the doubts in many minds; it was, of course impossible to go beyond the words of the statute governing compensation.

To assist owner/occupiers, anxious to provide alternative accommodation for themselves, the Council have stated that they will be prepared to purchase blighted property in advance of any orders - at purchase prices within statutory limits of slum clearance compensation.

A realistic future building programme has been devised to match the new speed of clearance. From 1st April, 1968 absolute priority will be given to the re-housing of displaced families from clearance areas. At the same time a point system is to be introduced to deal with families on the normal Housing Waiting List. The scheme is designed to bring forward the following cases -

- (a) applicants without a separate home;
- (b) overcrowding;
- (c) medical need;
- (d) aged persons (including those who are in under-occupied dwellings);
- (e) families with children occupying flats which are not self-contained;
- (f) ex service personnel taking up employment in the town;
- (g) where appropriate, key workers.

Estimated number of unfit houses remaining .....	670
Number of years necessary to deal with the	
above houses .....	5
Applicants on waiting list at end of year .....	280
Houses completed in 1967: Wisbech Corporation .....	48
Private Enterprise .....	45
Total post war houses completed .....	1,729

Houses in Clearance Areas and Unfit Houses elsewhere  
Return for the year ending 31st December, 1967

A. HOUSES DEMOLISHED	Houses demolished	Displaced during year	
		Persons	Families
<u>In or adjoining Clearance Areas</u>			
Houses unfit for human habitation	61	139	57
Included by reason of bad arrangement	6	-	-
On land acquired under Sec. 43(2) Housing Act, 1957	7	-	-
<u>Not in or adjoining Clearance Areas</u>			
As a result of formal or informal procedure under Secs. 16 or 17(1) Housing Act, 1957	12	2	1
Local authority owned houses certified unfit by the Medical Officer of Health	+	-	-
Houses unfit for human habita- tion where action has been taken under local Acts	1	-	-
TOTALS	87	141	58
B. UNFIT HOUSES CLOSED	Number		
Under Secs. 16(4), 17(1) and 35(1) Housing Act, 1957 and 26, Housing Act, 1961	0	0	0
Parts of buildings closed under Sec. 18, Housing Act, 1957	0	0	0
C. UNFIT HOUSES MADE FIT AND HOUSES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE REMEDIED		By Owner	By local authority
After informal action by local authority		0	0
After formal action under Public Health Acts		9	0
After formal notice under Secs. 9 and 16 Housing Act, 1957		2	0

Housing cont'd .....

Demolition of Unfit Houses took place at -

Clearance Areas - (36)\* 75

22,23,24,25,26,27,28,29 Bowthorpe Road.  
1 Cross Street.  
1,2,3,4,5,6,8,14A,15 Golding Street.  
3 The Low.  
2,4,6,8,10,12,14 Milner Road.  
1,2,3,4 New Street.  
8 Norwich Road.  
1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13 Park Street.  
4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,14,15,16,17,18,18A,19,20,21,23,24,25,26,27  
Prospect Place.  
9 Raymond Street.  
1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8 Short Street.

Individual Unfit Houses

(a) Formal Action - (5)\* 4

1 King's Walk.  
69, 70 Norfolk Street.  
19 Silver Street.

(b) Informal Action - (22)\* 13

7,8,9 Cannon Street.  
54,56,58,60,62,64,66,68 Norwich Road.  
10, 11 West Parade.

Other Council Owned Properties - (8)\* 0

\* Figures in brackets are for the year 1966

HOUSES IN MULTIPLE OCCUPATION

About forty houses are used to house families in rooms which are not self-contained. Apart from caravans, this class of property remains available for re-letting when vacated. It has been possible to secure gradual improvement in the conditions prevailing in multi-occupied houses, but it must be recorded that it has been impossible to persuade any owner to convert such property to self-contained units with the assistance of discretionary improvement grants.



## IMPROVEMENT OF DWELLINGS

Steady progress has continued towards ensuring the provision of modern amenities in dwellings having an expected life of fifteen years or more.

A particular point was made of pointing out the need to carry this type of work in property owned by the Council. So far piecemeal works have been executed when requested by tenants. Visits have been made to judge the possibility of using prefabricated methods. Arising from initial enquiries it is anticipated that a package contract will be arranged to secure the improvement of all outstanding Council property during 1968.

### Standard Grants

The following is a summary of the action taken on grants during the year:-

Applications received .....	52
Applications passed .....	52
Applications rejected - unfit .....	0
Applications withdrawn .....	0

Cases in which work was completed and the grant paid:-

52 applications for a total of £5,333:7s:0d.

Amenities provided with the aid of grants:-

Bathrooms .....	41
Wash-hand basins .....	47
Hot water systems .....	47
Internal w.c's .....	51
Larders .....	31

The standard grant system remains basically simple and speedy to administer and the use of delegated powers ensures prompt dealings with all applications.

Improvement of Dwellings cont'd .....

Discretionary Grants

Applications received .....	1
Applications passed .....	1
Applications rejected .....	0
Applications withdrawn .....	0

Cases in which work was completed and grant paid:-

1 dwelling in which a damp-proof course was inserted for a grant of £124:11s:0d.

COMMON LODGING HOUSE

The Harp, formerly a common lodging house was purchased by the Council several years ago. The former keeper has retained the tenancy and gradually the number of lodgers is being decreased. Inherent defects would be extremely costly to remedy.

Far less trouble was experienced during the period from vagrants. This may be attributable to the apparent shorter period which elapsed between the vacation and demolition of houses in clearance areas.

ALMSHOUSES

Three blocks of almshouses continued in use, 16 dwellings in all.

The Wisbech Municipal Charities negotiated a loan from the Council towards the building of 12 aged persons flats, complete with warden accommodation to be erected on the cleared site in King's Walk.

Site work commenced in preparation for the erection, off West Street, of 15 aged persons flats with warden accommodation sponsored by the Smedley Trust.

Housing cont'd .....

RENT ACT, 1957

(Return for the year, 1967)

1. Number of applications for certificates ..... 1
2. Number of decisions not to issue certificates. 0
3. Number of decisions to issue certificates -
  - (a) in respect of some but not all defects .. 1
  - (b) in respect of all defects ..... 0
4. Number of undertakings given by landlords  
under paragraph 5 of the first schedule ..... 0
5. Number of undertakings refused by local  
authority under proviso to paragraph 5  
of the first schedule ..... 0
6. Number of certificates issued ..... 1
7. Applications by landlords to local authority  
for cancellation of certificates ..... 0
8. Objections by tenants to cancellation of  
certificates ..... 0
9. Decisions by local authority to cancel in  
spite of tenants objection ..... 0
10. Certificates cancelled by local authority .... 0

### CARAVANS

#### Residential

Four licensed residential sites continued to be available, licensed for 110 caravans. The three sites in Osborn Road, controlled by one company have individual plots for 67 caravans, all of which were taken up by caravans provided by the owner. The site in Magazine Lane, with plots for 43 caravans was almost completed and only a few plots remain unoccupied.

One site for 20 vans in Osborn Road is covered only by Temporary planning permission due to expire in March, 1969. My experience has confirmed the local theory that caravans provide only sub-standard units of living accommodation. Therefore in anticipation of running down the number of caravans provision has been made in the future building programme to rehouse the people likely to be displaced from the Ingleborough site.



Caravans cont'd .....

The presence of caravans to let attracts all manner of persons from near and far who, in turn, create problems for police, housing, welfare and health authorities.

Gypsy and Other Travellers

A considerable number of staff hours were taken up in trying to control the resting of gypsy and like travellers within the Borough.

I am pleased to record that the County Council, through the County Welfare Department, showed more interest in this common problem. In September the Officers of both County and Borough Councils began to take a fresh look at the problem. Detailed arrangements were made to carry out a survey of itinerant caravans in the County as at January, 1968. I know that this is perhaps a mere repetition of previous surveys but the measure of unity between the two authorities has never been so close and satisfactory results may be on the horizon.

FACTORIES

Regular visits have been made to premises and houses in which work is carried out.

Factories Act, 1937 - 1959

(1) Inspections for purposes of provision as to health.

Premises	Number on Register	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Secs. 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by the local authority .....	14	6	-	-
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Sec. 7 is enforced by local authority .....	97	14	-	-
(3) Other premises in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the local authority (excluding outworkers premises) .....	4	-	-	-
TOTAL	115	20	-	-

Factories cont'd .....

(2) Outwork.

Nature of work	No. of out-workers in Aug. list.	No. of cases of default in sending list to Council.	No. of Prosecutions for failing to supply lists.	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises.	Notices served	Prosecutions
Making of wearing apparel	1	-	-	-	-	-
Stringing Labels	76	-	-	-	-	-

### NON-INDUSTRIAL PREMISES

#### Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963

Routine duties were carried out, although at a slower pace than anticipated, although more time has been spent persuading occupiers to rectify contraventions.

An analysis of contraventions found and notified to occupiers is set out below:-

Lack of cleanliness in premises .....	5
Evidence of rooms overcrowded .....	1
Absence of effective provision for securing and maintaining a reasonable temperature .....	16
Lack of ventilation .....	6
Insufficient natural or artificial lighting .....	25
Insufficiency and lack of cleanliness in relation to sanitary conveniences .....	12
Absence of accessible washing facilities .....	22
Absence of conveniently accessible supply of drinking water .....	0
Lack of accommodation for clothing .....	1
Need for suitable facilities for sitting .....	0
Need to provide alternative type of seats .....	7
Lack of eating facilities in shop premises .....	3
Repairs and maintenance required to floors, stairs and passages .....	13
Fencing required to exposed machinery .....	1
Need to provide first aid equipment .....	26

Investigation was carried out into one accident due to a fall of an employee in a general store.

# Agriculture

Better sanitary facilities are readily available at all fixed agriculture and horticultural premises, these having been incorporated in the building of new stores.

In the fruit season, ten visits were made to sites where intensive picking was in progress and temporary sanitary facilities were provided.

## PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

Return for the year 1967

	Type of Property	
	Non-Agricultural	Agricultural
(1) Number of properties in local authorities district:	7,109	101
(2) Total number of properties inspected as a result of notification:	228	8
Number infested by: Rats	167	8
Mice	41	-
(3) Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification:	151	18
Number infested by: Rats	78	18
Mice	70	-

## WISBECH PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY

There has been a marked increase in the number of grain cargoes passing in and out of the port. Dust nuisances have arisen causing quite serious interference with residential life on the East Bank. Work is in progress to rectify the problem. Spillage along the quays has shown the need for regular cleansing in order to prevent rodents feeding in the port area.



Wisbech Port Health Authority cont'd .....

Amount of shipping entering the district during the year.

<u>Ships from</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Tonnage</u>	<u>Number Visited</u> <u>by the</u> <u>P.H.I.</u>	<u>by the</u> <u>M.O.H.</u>	<u>Number of ships</u> <u>reported as hav-</u> <u>ing, or having</u> <u>had, during voy-</u> <u>age, infectious</u> <u>disease on board</u>
Foreign Ports	254	60,734 H.R. 141,180 Cargo	234	Nil	Nil
Coastwise	89	18,334 H.R. 49,490 Cargo	22	Nil	Nil
TOTALS	343	79,068 H.R. 190,670 Cargo	256	Nil	Nil

Character of shipping and trade during the year.

Passenger Traffic: Number of passengers - Inwards ..... Nil  
- Outwards ..... Nil

Cargo Traffic: Principal Imports: Petrol, maize, timber, fertiliser and pig iron.

Principal Exports: Bricks, barley, oats and beans.

Principal Ports from which ships arrive:

London, Stettin, Immingham, Leningrad, Gdansk, Hull, Goolo, Ala, Hamina, Rotterdam, Wismar, Kotka, Eire, Channel Isles, Antwerp, Archangel, Amsterdam, Hamburg, Mantyluoto, Esbjerg, Karlshamn and Koverhar.

Deratting Exemption Certificates

During the year, 10 deratting exemption certificates were issued for ships from foreign ports.



